

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-20 (Cancelled).

21. (New) A method for the operation of a wind energy installation, comprising:
decelerating a rotor of the wind energy installation;
recording the rotational position of the rotor with regard to the rotor axis when the
rotor reaches a desired rotational position;
stopping the rotor in the desired rotational position; and
automatically initiating locking upon reaching the desired rotational position to block
the rotor in the desired rotational position with regard to rotation on a rotor
axis.
22. (New) A method according to Claim 21, wherein the rotational position of the rotor
is determined by use of a marker and a position sensor.
23. (New) A method according to Claim 21, wherein the locking includes a first locking
element non-rotatably connected to the rotor that engages with a second locking element that
is fixed with respect to rotation on the rotor axis.
24. (New) A method according to Claim 23, wherein the first locking element comprises
a disk concentrically arranged to the rotor axis having at least one recess for locking the
second locking element when a locking pin arranged approximately parallel to the rotor axis

is hydraulically inserted into the recess, with the locking pin braced against part of the frame structure of the wind energy installation.

25. (New) A method according to claim 24, wherein the decelerating includes mechanically decelerating the rotor with a brake, and releasing the brake as soon as the second locking element engages with the first locking element that is non-rotatably connected with the rotor.

26. (New) A method according to claim 23, wherein the recording includes the position of the first locking element and/or the second locking element and the locking and/or the decelerating is controlled depending on the position that has been recorded.

27. (New) Wind energy installation, comprising:
a rotor that is rotatable with regard to a rotor axis; and
a locking device to be used for the locking of the rotor in a desired position with regard to the rotor axis, the locking device automatically locking the rotor when the desired rotational position has been reached.

28. (New) The wind energy installation according to Claim 27, further comprises a monitoring device to determine whether the desired position has been reached and to produce a signal to so indicate, and wherein that the locking device automatically locks the rotor responsive to the signal.

29. (New) The wind energy installation according to Claim 28, wherein the monitoring device includes a position sensor and/or a marker non-rotatably connected to the rotor.

30. (New) The wind energy installation according to Claim 27, wherein the locking device includes a first locking element connected non-rotatably to the rotor as well as a second locking element fixed with regard to rotation on the rotor axis, and the first and second locking elements are designed to engage with one another.

31. (New) The wind energy installation according to Claim 30, wherein the first locking element includes a disk that is set coaxially to the rotor axis and provides at least one recess, and the second locking element includes a pin configured to engage the recess of the disk.

32. (New) The wind energy installation according to Claim 31, wherein the pin is configured to be moved from a release position to a locking position within an inserting device, arranged in parallel to the rotor axis which fits into the recess in the disk.

33. (New) The wind energy installation according to Claim 32, wherein the cross section of the pin tapers, preferably conically, in a section plane at a right angle to the pin axis along a final segment facing the locking element in the release position.

34. (New) The wind energy installation according to Claim 31, wherein the pin may be moved hydraulically.

35. (New) The wind energy installation according to Claim 30, wherein the locking device includes at least one position monitoring device configured to record the position of at least one locking element.

36. (New) The wind energy installation according to Claim 27, further comprising a control device to control the locking process depending on the rotational position of the rotor

recorded by a monitoring device or depending on the position of the locking element as recorded by a position monitoring device.

37. (New) The wind energy installation according to Claim 36, wherein the control device for operation of a brake arrangement and/or the locking device is configured to operate in response to commands that may be transmitted by wireless signals.

38. (New) The wind energy installation according to Claim 37, wherein the brake arrangement is configured to decelerate the rotation of the rotor.

39. (New) The wind energy installation according to Claim 38, wherein the brake arrangement is configured to be controlled by the control device depending on the position of the locking element as recorded by the position monitoring device.

40. A locking device for a wind energy installation comprising:
a first locking element configured to connect to a rotor of the wind energy installation;
a second locking element configured to engage the first locking element locking the rotor; and
a monitoring device configured to determine a relative position of the rotor and to automatically lock the rotor by engaging the first and second locking element when a target rotational position is detected.